

The Parish of the Durham Martyrs
*Incorporating the Churches of Our Lady of Mercy
& St. Godric, St. Joseph and St. Bede*

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Parish Secretary: Mrs M. D. Towers

Sunday 14th January 2024
2nd Sunday of the Year
Parish Newsletter

Parish Priest Fr. Colm Hayden
Parish Secretary: Mrs. M, D. Towers
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8.30am-4.00pm
Hospital Chaplain Fr. Paul Tully-01388 818544/01913332183

Congratulations to Paul Murray, who becomes an Ecumenical Dean of Durham Cathedral this Sunday, 14th January.

I hope we're all settled back to regularity after the Festivities. Our final parish celebration was the SVP Christmas party. It was marvellous fare, as usual. Thanks to the Durham Martyrs SVP Conference for organising the occasion.

The Sunday morning Mass time will change from 11.00am to 10.30am from Sunday the 4th February.

The sound system at St. Joseph's is inadequate. Can I ask our readers to increase their volume. A new sound system is under consideration.

Next Thursday, 18th January, there will be a film evening at 7.00pm. We begin with a Seasonal showing of 'The Dead' from a short story by James Joyce. The film is directed by John Huston. Though humorous, it touches on the deeper issues of life, relationship, loss and Faith. We will share a glass-or two-of wine with cheese. All welcome.

Seamus Heaney (1939–2013)

Miracle

Not the one who takes up his bed and walks
But the ones who have known him all along
And carry him in —
Their shoulders numb, the ache and stoop deep locked
In their backs, the stretcher handles
Slippery with sweat. And no let up
Until he's strapped on tight, made tiltable and raised to the tiled roof, then
lowered for healing.
Be mindful of them as they stand and wait
For the burn of the paid out ropes to cool,
Their slight light-headedness and incredulity
To pass, those who had known him all along.

Feast Days

Wednesday, 15 th January	St. Anthony of Egypt Ab
Friday, 19 th January	St. Wulstan Bp
Saturday, 20 th January	St. Fabian P, M/St. Sebastian M

Prayers – please keep in your prayers:



Meg Dixon	Yvonne Reid
Sheila Owen	Jared Howarth
Ken Riddle	Francesca Camilerni
Breda Gallagher	Nicola Dawson
Sean Casey	Ian Hamilton
Brian Harland	

Anniversaries

Bessie Hirst	Harry Troughear
John Doyle	Peter Barry
Alan McNamee	Colin Armstrong
Mary Murphy	Teresa Harrison
Bede Murray	



Sympathy – we extend our sympathy to the family and friends of the late Joe Watson. Funeral arrangements are not known at this time.

The Requiem Mass of the late Tom Oliver will take place at St. Joseph's on Tuesday, 30th January at 10.00am followed by burial in Belmont Cemetery.
Requiescant in pace.

Parish Council

The first meeting of 2024 will take place on Tuesday, 23rd January. If you would like any items to be added to the agenda, please send a note to Marjorie.



Members of the SVP would like to thank all who were involved in the recent Christmas Party for the elderly and housebound – especially those who donated raffle prizes, gave donations and helped with the clearing and washing up. It was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Note from the Buildings Committee

As a part of the refurbishment of St. Godric's after the fire in 1987, 48 high level 500-watt halogen lights were installed. The uplighters provided an even, reflected light throughout the church. After a few years the wattage was reduced to 200 watts, with little perceived change in the lighting level. This was at a time when the church was used daily, and it generated a considerable saving in energy costs. Halogen lamps have now been withdrawn from sale and this was the catalyst for a review of the lighting to take place.

The new fittings use 50-watt LED lamps. As well as being cheaper to run, the longevity of the lamp is greatly increased, and carbon emissions are much reduced. We did look at providing dimmer switches on the system but the original cabling and switching grid made it difficult to achieve.

Parish Building group

SUDAN APPEAL

Thanks to your generosity we have been able to send cheques to the value of £1085 to the Sudan Appeal. It's a magnificent sum which we are sure will go a long way to support the feeding programme for mothers and babies, as well as train people in useful skills. Thank you once again.



Durham Martyrs Walking Group – 27th January

Our next walk will be the 4 to 5 mile stretch of the Lanchester Railway Path that had to postpone in November. This is a relatively short and gentle walk and has the advantage of being on flat well surfaced footpaths. There will be an opportunity to visit Knitsley Farm Shop and/or have lunch at Knitsley Mill afterwards.

Parking is available on the road opposite the Farm Shop entrance where walkers should meet at 10am. (Postcode for the shop is DH8 9EW)

Please let Marjorie know if you intend to join the walk so we know who to expect. Gillian Macarthur has kindly agreed to lead this walk. Thank you, Gillian.

Finchale Partnership Synod Meeting: Formation

We're planning a series of meetings to talk about some of the issues raised in the summary document from the Synod Assembly in Rome last October. The first meeting will be on **Sunday 28th January at 2.30pm**, at St. Cuthbert's, Old Elvet, Durham, and the subject will be 'Formation'. Please come along and share your ideas on the following questions:

Many people have said that they have not had the chance to learn more about their faith since they left school. The Synod Assembly suggested more formation in subjects from Vatican 2 to the church's teaching on social issues and relationships. But what should be our priority locally? And how should we go about this formation?

Ecumenical Service at Ushaw for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

On Sunday 21st January, an ecumenical service will be held in the chapels at Ushaw, in which we come together for prayer, scripture readings and hymns, responding to Jesus' own prayer that we may all be one. All are very welcome to attend, and we look forward to celebrating together our common Christian faith. The service starts at 3pm and will be followed by refreshments in the parlour.

No ticket is required for this event.

Youth Ministry Conference – 3 February 2024

This Youth Ministry and Practical Theology Conference is YMT's first conference since the COVID-19 pandemic and we look forward to gathering with youth ministers, catechists, clergy, teachers, staff and volunteer co-workers from across the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and beyond! The theme for the conference is "Investing in the Fearlessness of Youth", inspired by a quote from Pope Francis' letter, *Christus Vivit* (Chapter 7 no. 233). We hope you can join us for this Youth Ministry Conference.

Booking is still open and you can either email nsalkeld@ymt.org or book online here: www.ticketsource.co.uk/youthministryteam. Online booking will apply booking fees.

We are looking forward to welcoming keynote speaker, Reverend Professor David Wilkinson, Director of Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science, an international project based at St John's College, Durham, who will explore how we can engage young people in the Gospel when we live in a world of science. We are also pleased to welcome back David Wells, international speaker, best-selling author and friend of YMT, to guide us to reflect on our theme.

For more information about the conference visit www.ymt.org/ymt-conference

The Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has the following job vacancies:

HR Adviser, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – part-time. Closing date: 16 January

HR Administrator, Diocesan Offices, Newcastle – part-time. Closing date 16 January

Cleaner, St Augustine, Darlington – part-time. Closing date 22nd January

Cleaner, St Charles, Gosforth - part-time. Closing date 22nd January

Please visit www.diocesehn.org.uk for full details or contact us on 0191 243 3301.

Job Vacancy

School Chaplain at St Thomas More Catholic School Blaydon.

All information relating to this role can be found here - [School Chaplain](#)

Those interested can get in touch with us by emailing recruitment@stthomasmore.org.uk, or calling 0191 499 0111. We are happy to facilitate anyone that would like to visit.

To celebrate the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, Durham Churches Together invite you to a free "Prayer Lunch" in St Nic's Church in Durham Market Place at 12.30-1.30pm on Monday 22nd January.

It's a simple lunch of bread and cheese with a short talk and prayers. Details from Matt Pallister on 07929-796599.

Newman Tyneside Circle invites you to come and hear about **Root & Branch** - an exciting new forum for reform, working for 'a safe, just and inclusive Roman Catholic Church'.

The meeting will be at Holy Name parish hall, Jesmond, Newcastle [*nb new venue*], on Thursday, 25 January at 7.30pm. For more information about Root & Branch, see www.rootandbranchsynod.org.

Mass Intentions for the Week

14th January 2024

	St Godric's	St Joseph's
Saturday 13 January		5.00pm Vigil Mass John Doyle Anniversary
Sunday 14 January	9.00am Frank Wilson Anniversary 3.00-4.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am Deceased members of the Conway and Barrett Families
Monday 15 January	NO MASS	9.15am Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 16 January	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Colin Wild	NO MASS
Wednesday 17 January	NO MASS	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am Private Intention (M & T)
Thursday 18 January	9.30am - Exposition 10.00am For Moira	NO MASS
Friday 19 January	NO MASS	9.30am – Exposition 10.00am Joe Watson
Saturday 20 January	NO MASS	5.00pm Vigil Mass Greer Parker and Peter & Catherine McLoughlin
Sunday 21 January	9.00am World Peace	11.00am Arthur Binks and David Elliot Birthday Remembrance

St. Cuthbert's

Sun 14	Mon 15	Tue 16	Wed 17	Thurs 18	Fri 19	Sat 20	Sun 21
10.00am and 6.30pm	NO MASS	12.15pm	7.00pm	12.15pm	NO MASS	12.00 noon Nuptial Mass	10.00am and 6.30pm